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LT. GOVERNOR AIONA ANNOUNCES HAWAII'S ENERGY STAR® REFRIGERATOR REBATE PROGRAM

Awards Cash Incentives to Hawai'i Residents for Going Green

HONOLULU – Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona Jr., today announced Hawai'i residents will soon be able to save money on new energy-efficient refrigerators when they replace their old models, as a result of \$2 million in federal stimulus funds allocated to the State of Hawai'i to be used for ENERGY STAR® appliance rebates. Starting on May 24, 2010, Hawai'i's ENERGY STAR Refrigerator Rebate Program will offer a \$250 cash incentive to consumers statewide, while helping to accelerate the state's Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative goal of 70 percent clean energy by 2030.

Similar to the Cash for Clunkers program that took old gas-guzzling cars off the road, Hawai'i's program replaces inefficient refrigerators with more efficient ones. This mail-in rebate program is on a first-come, first-serve basis, and is subject to availability of funds. Participating retailers have allotments that may be depleted quickly, depending on demand.

"Through innovation and collaborative programs, we are making significant progress in transforming Hawai'i from the most imported-oil dependent state in the nation, into a true leader for clean and sustainable energy," said Lt. Governor Aiona. "Implementation of this ENERGY STAR Refrigerator Rebate Program brings us another step closer to achieving our Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative objectives."

The program is exclusive to refrigerators because this appliance offers one of the largest immediate savings for homeowners and overall benefits to the environment. In total, this program will help eliminate approximately seven million pounds of carbon emissions from entering Hawai'i's atmosphere and more than 100,000 barrels of oil from being used, over the life of the refrigerators rebated.

"New ENERGY STAR-qualified refrigerators use 50 percent less energy than ones made just 10 years ago; replacing a single 10-year old refrigerator with a new ENERGY STAR appliance can save island residents between \$1,700 and \$2,000 in energy bills at today's prices, in addition to 13 barrels of oil each, over a 15-year lifespan," said Ray Starling, Hawai'i Energy program manager. "Our oil dependency is very costly for Hawai'i's consumers and we all need to get involved to make a difference. The good news is that it's easy to use less energy and there's lots of help available."

The following websites offer program information, including a complete list of participating retailers, facts about which refrigerators are eligible and how to properly dispose of existing appliances.

- Hawai'i Energy's website, www.HawaiiEnergy.com is the official online hub for program information for residents of O'ahu, Maui, Moloka'i, Lāna'i and Hawai'i Island. A daily status report, will show how many refrigerator rebates are still available for residential consumers.
- Information specific to Kaua'i residents can be found at the Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative website, www.kiuc.coop.
- Resources on this federal stimulus program, as well as the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative, can be found at: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/energy.

"Similar programs in other states have taught us that this money will go very fast and we encourage consumers to plan ahead, then act quickly once funds are available," said Ray Mierta, energy services supervisor for Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative. "This exciting new appliance rebate program is just one plank in our overall effort to ensure that Hawai'i moves forward on a clean and sustainable energy path. Aside from this federal program, there are a number of ongoing cash incentives, ranging from \$40 to \$800, that Hawai'i residents may be eligible for with the purchase of qualified energy-efficient appliances."

Detailed information on additional incentives currently offered in Hawai'i for ENERGY STAR-qualified appliances, including ceiling fans, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and solar hot water heaters can be found at www.HawaiiEnergy.com and at www.kiuc.coop.

Cash rebates for residential consumers on the islands of Hawai'i, Lāna'i, Maui, Moloka'i and O'ahu will be administered by Hawai'i Energy. Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative will administer rebates for the residential consumers on the island of Kaua'i. Both companies are working closely with the Hawai'i State Energy Office on program details and fulfillment. It is expected that the processing and verification process for the federal rebates will take 10 to 12 weeks. Consumers can obtain their rebate application from a participating retailer and should mail in their rebate forms immediately after their refrigerator purchase. Funding for Hawai'i's program has been procured by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, from a national total of \$300 million.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Hawaii's ENERGY STAR® Refrigerator Rebate Program

What is Hawaii's ENERGY STAR® Refrigerator Rebate Program?

Hawaii has been allocated \$2 million in federal stimulus funds to be used for ENERGY STAR appliance rebates. Similar to the Cash for Clunkers program that took old gas-guzzling cars off the road, Hawaii's ENERGY STAR Refrigerator Rebate Program replaces inefficient refrigerators with qualified ENERGY STAR-rated refrigerators.

The program will offer a \$250 cash incentive to consumers, while helping to accelerate the state's Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative goal of 70 percent clean energy by 2030.

How is money for the program allocated?

The \$250 mail-in rebate is on a first-come, first-serve basis, pending availability of funds. The program is not using a reservation system.

What is the purpose of Hawaii's ENERGY STAR Refrigerator Rebate Program?

The goal of Hawaii's ENERGY STAR Refrigerator Rebate Program is to reduce electric energy consumption, carbon dioxide emissions, and dependence on fossil fuels while stimulating Hawaii's economy. Participants are required to trade-up an operating refrigerator to receive the rebate. It is encouraged that the household's oldest operating refrigerator be traded in.

What are some economic and environmental impacts of making this switch?

- By installing an ENERGY STAR-qualified refrigerator, Hawaii households can save nearly \$80 per year on energy costs.
- New ENERGY STAR-qualified refrigerators employ 50-percent less energy than ones made just 10 years ago.
- Replacing a single 10-year old refrigerator can save island residents between \$1,700 and \$2,000 in energy bills at today's prices, in addition to 13 barrels of oil each, over a 15 year lifespan.
- In total, this program will help eliminate approximately seven million pounds of carbon emissions from entering Hawaii's atmosphere and more than 100,000 barrels of oil from being used, over the life of the refrigerators rebated under this program.

When will the rebate program start and how long will it last?

The program will start on May 24, 2010. It will continue, at most, through June 23, 2010; however, rebates will only be available as long as the rebate funds last. Retailers have allotments that may be depleted quickly, depending on demand. When funds run out, no more rebates will be issued. Residential consumers are encouraged to plan ahead and act quickly.

Why is Hawaii's program exclusive to refrigerators?

This appliance offers one of the largest immediate savings for homeowners and overall benefits to the environment. Each State was allocated a limited budget and allowed to carefully select the appliances that would save the most energy. In Hawaii, refrigerators account for the largest portion of a utility bill, after electric water heating and air conditioners. Hawaii has a large number of old refrigerators in use that we hope to replace with new ENERGY STAR models.

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Hawaii's ENERGY STAR® Refrigerator Rebate Program

Who will administer Hawaii's ENERGY STAR Refrigerator Rebate Program?

Hawaii's Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) elected to have two companies that administer the existing state appliance rebate programs to manage the federal program.

- Hawaii Energy will administer the program on Oahu, Maui, Molokai, Lanai and Hawaii Island
- Kauai Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) will administer the program on Kauai

Who is Hawaii Energy?

Hawaii Energy, Efficiency Programs is an independent company, operated under contract by the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (HPUC), to provide energy efficiency services to Hawaii residents. This contract is the result of the Hawaii Legislature allowing HPUC to move the electric utilities' energy efficiency services to an independent third party administrator. Pursuant to this legislative action, HPUC awarded a competitively bid contract to Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) to administer the electric utility energy efficiency programs for Hawaii, Maui and Oahu counties starting July 1, 2009 under the name "Hawaii Energy."

Who qualifies for a rebate?

Rebates are available to all Hawaii residential consumers who do the following three steps:

1. **BUY:** Purchase a new, ENERGY STAR-qualified refrigerator model in-store at a Hawaii retail location during the rebate period (May 24, 2010 – June 23, 2010)
 2. **TRADE UP:** Replace an old refrigerator and haul away the old appliance (arranged through Participating Retailers)
 3. **SEND:** Submit the required rebate application materials immediately, postmarked no later than July 31, 2010
- Tenants and renters that can comply with the above requirements are also eligible to receive the rebates.
 - Landlords, property managers and property owners that are not property residents, are not eligible to receive the rebates. The U.S. Department of Energy has determined that such individuals cannot be considered a residential consumer, as they stand to receive commercial gain or benefit from the purchase.
 - Buying groups are not eligible to receive the rebates, as the federal program rules require that the rebates go directly to individual residential consumers.
 - Purely commercial properties, such as hotels, are not eligible to receive the rebates, as they are not residential consumers.
 - Finally, only one refrigerator rebate can be awarded per residential household. Multiple refrigerator purchases are not eligible to receive a rebate.

Is the \$250 rebate guaranteed?

No. Rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis based upon the date received, provided all program requirements have been met. Only complete applications, which demonstrate that all requirements have been met, will then be placed in the payment queue. Rebates will be processed in the order that they are received.

What refrigerators are eligible for the rebate?

To qualify for the \$250 rebate, the ENERGY STAR refrigerator must be listed on the www.energystar.gov website.

Frequently Asked Questions

Hawaii's ENERGY STAR® Refrigerator Rebate Program

Do I have to buy from a Participating Retailer?

Yes. Participating Retailers are committed to assisting consumers that participate in this program and receive a rebate. These retailers have pledged to provide delivery of the new refrigerator, then haul away and properly recycle the old refrigerator -- making them a "one-stop-shop" for the rebate program. They also offer additional benefits, including help in preparing your application and answering program questions.

Where can I purchase a refrigerator that qualifies for the rebate?

The following websites have a complete list of Participating Retailers:

- www.hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/energy
- www.hawaiienergy.com
- www.kiuc.coop

What if we do not have an old refrigerator to trade-in?

Hawaii's ENERGY STAR Refrigerator Rebate Program requires the trade-in, and recycling of an old refrigerator. Residential consumers may still be eligible for other \$50 refrigerator rebates. Information on this can be found at: www.hawaiienergy.com and www.kiuc.coop.

Will the current \$50 rebate on refrigerators, administered by Hawaii Energy and KIUC, remain in effect when the federal program starts? Will it then continue after the federal funds are used up?

Yes. However the \$250 in federal funds cannot be combined with the current \$50 rebate being offered through Hawaii Energy and KIUC. Please visit the corresponding websites: www.hawaiienergy.com and www.kiuc.coop for more information.

How do I receive a rebate?

Residential consumers will need to fill out and send in a completed Rebate Application Form (available ONLY from Participating Retailers) along with a proof of purchase to the following address, postmarked no later than July 31, 2010:

For Hawaii, Lanai, Maui, Molokai and Oahu:

Trade Up for Cool Cash Program
Hawaii Energy
P.O. Box 3920
Honolulu, HI 96812

For Kauai:

Replace, Recycle, Save Program
KIUC
4463 Pahee Street, Suite 1
Lihue, HI 96766-2000

How long will it take to receive my rebate and how do I check on its status?

It is expected that the processing and verification process will take 10 to 12 weeks. Consumers may call the phone numbers below to learn the status of their rebate.

Who can I contact for more information about the Program?

- For Oahu, Hawaii Island and Maui County residents -- contact Hawaii Energy at 808-537-5577, toll-free at 877-231-8222 or visit the website at: www.hawaiienergy.com
- For Kauai residents, contact Ray Mierta, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative at 808-246-8280, 808-246-4300 or visit the website at: www.kiuc.coop
- Note: For information on the federal appliance rebate program, visit the U.S. Department of Energy website at: <http://www.energysavers.gov>

Participating Retailers
Hawaii's ENERGY STAR® Refrigerator Rebate Program

Kauai

Sears
Home Depot

Hawaii Island

General Appliance - Kona
Hakoda's Builders Appliance - Kona
Home Depot - Hilo
Home Depot - Kona
Lowe's - Kona
Sears - Hilo

Maui

Ferguson
Hamai Appliance
Home Depot
Lowe's
Sears

Oahu

Best Buy - Aiea
Best Buy - Iwilei
Coast Guard Exchange
Disco Mart
Discount Mutual
Ferguson
Gima's Appliance
Home Depot - Iwilei
Home Depot - Kapolei
Home Depot - Pearl City
Lowe's
Midtown Radio
Navy Exchange (NEX)
Newtown Appliances
OK TV & APPLIANCE
Pacific Appliance Group
Sears - Ala Moana
Sears - Pearlridge
Sears - Windward
Sears Outlet - Pearl City
The Discount Store
Wada's Appliance